TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

January 25, 2001 LB 313

district that are thinking about it. One thing it's... I'd like to just call your attention, I think we need to do this early because a lot of the schools are forming their budgets right now, and they need to know whether this money is going to be available or not. And it may make a difference whether they go ahead and consolidate. If the money is not available, I think a lot of this in the category that they are talking about it would drop out, and that would be going the opposite direction of what we talk like we would want to happen. Some place there is going to be a saturation point, so it's not going to go on forever, that those that want to consolidate will have already done it. Another thing to consider is, and then I've heard from many of my schools and I had a call just yesterday from a school board member, that they are trying to find out what is going to happen when the levy drops to \$1. When they see what is going to happen, I know there is more state aid goes but many times it does not make up for the difference of what they are shorted in the...in their tax levy. And I think when they see the effects of dropping to \$1, there may be a lot more added to this list too. One other point as far as if we put so much money in there and it is prorated out, I think that has just as much uncertainty as not having anything there at all, because if you don't know what it is going to be, they are not very apt to go ahead and consolidate. I think they know...need to know for sure what it is going to benefit them to consolidate as far as incentive money and to know that they are going to get it so that they can go ahead with their plans. And I think the incentive method is one of the best that there is. With that, I will turn the rest of my time back. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Kremer. Senator Landis, you're recognized. The question has been called, do I see five hands? I do. All those in favor of debate ceasing on AMO112 to LB 313 vote aye, opposed nay. We are voting on ceasing debate. Have you all voted? Record, please, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 27 ayes, 1 nay to cease debate, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Debate does cease. Senator Beutler, you're recognized to close on your amendment.